

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-18, and 20-31 were pending. Claims 13 and 14 have been cancelled.

Interview Summary

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of an interview conducted February 18, 2004, following an initial telephone conversation initiated by the Examiner on February 17, 2004. In the interview, in which Applicant's representative Brian J. Gustafson and Examiner Patel participated, the Examiner discussed claims 13-14. Specifically, the Examiner had contacted Applicant's representative to discuss claim 13, which had previously been allowed, and disclosed the existence of additional art (not of record), which on initial review the Examiner believes anticipates claim 13. The Examiner indicated that the other pending claims were allowable. In order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has cancelled claims 13 and 14. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-3, 5-12, 15-18, and 20-31 are in condition for allowance.


IDS

Applicant is enclosing an IDS (PTO-1449), which includes the art that was disclosed by the Examiner during the interview and two patents referenced by that art.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 20 February, 2004

  
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